

5 September 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

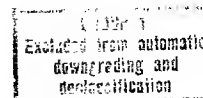
SUBJECT: Publicity on Failure of Soviet Space Probes

1. At the request of Mr. Carl Kaysen, I attach herewith a fact sheet on six Soviet failures in probing space. To the best of our knowledge, these are the only such probes they have attempted. As I understand it, this fact sheet is to be used obliquely by NASA in response to a letter to be written to Mr. Webb by Mr. Lloyd Berkner.

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3. In order that the intelligence community be at least partially relieved of the probing outlined above, it would be advisable to make clear that this type of information is a normal collection responsibility of the NORAD SPADAT system.

SIGNED

Marshall S. Carter
Lieutenant General, USA
Acting Director

Attachment

MSC:bec

Orig & 1 - Handcarried to addressee via Mr. Kaysen
1 - DD/R w/cy attachment
1 - AD/SI w/cy attachment
✓ 1 - DDCI w/cy attachment.
1 - ER via Executive Director w/cy attachment
1 - O/DCI (Knoche) - w/cy attach.

**COMMENTS ON SOVIET ATTEMPTS TO SEND SPACECRAFT
TO MARS AND VENUS**

The Soviet Union has pursued a vigorous but unsuccessful program to send instrumented space probes to the planets.

Thus far, two attempts have been made to send spacecraft to Mars, and four to Venus. Of these six attempts, only one probe was successfully launched on an interplanetary path, the Venus probe of 12 February 1961. However, it was only a qualified

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